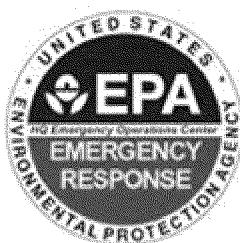


To: Eoc, Epahq[Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]
From: Eoc, Epahq
Sent: Fri 4/10/2015 3:28:13 PM
Subject: EOC Spot Report Update #8: Methyl Bromide Chemical Exposure, Cruz Bay, St. John, USVI

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EOC Spot Report Update #8: Methyl Bromide Chemical Exposure, Cruz Bay, St. John, USVI

US Environmental Protection Agency
Report as of 4/9/15 at 1800

Overview: On 3/20, EPA Region 2 was notified of a potential chemical substance exposure that occurred in St. John, US Virgin Islands (USVI). On 3/20, a family of four was staying at Sirenusa Condominium Resort in Cruz Bay, St. John when they started showing neurological symptoms of chemical exposure. The family's symptoms worsened and they required medical care at St. Thomas Hospital and all four family members were hospitalized. On 3/24, the family members were transferred to stateside hospitals for further treatment. Terminex Pest Control (the Potentially Responsible Party) confirmed that methyl bromide pesticide was applied at a condo unit on 3/18. Methyl bromide was applied in a lower condo unit and the pesticide fumes moved upwards into the unit where the family was staying.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) and Department of Health (DOH), Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), St. John Fire Department, St. John Police Department, Terminex Pest Control and condo complex management representatives are coordinating on this incident.

EPA Actions: A Region 2 OSC deployed to St. John on 3/21 to assist USVI DPNR in the investigation and inspected the condominium on 3/23. On 3/24, EPA conducted initial indoor and outdoor air sampling and monitoring of the unit. A second Region 2 OSC arrived on scene and both OSCs coordinated with DPNR, VI Fire Department, VI Police Department and condo management to begin development of a sampling strategy. On 3/27 and 3/28, crews collected air and water tap samples from the two condos. By 3/31, the condos were ventilated and air monitor readings went down to background levels. Results of air samples from the condos will be available the week of 4/13 and will assist decision makers in the clearing of the condos for re-occupancy. On 4/7, the Methyl Bromide container that was located at the Terminex storage unit on St. Thomas was transported to a secure location at the DPNR Maritime Enforcement Facility in Krum Bay after initial discussions to transport to the University of USVI. The transport was conducted with DPNR resources, and OSC and EPA CID oversight. Interviews with paramedics, hospital staff and condo guests were also conducted. On 4/9, the EPA OSCs and remaining RST contractor demobed from the site. On 4/13, an EPA OSC, ERT personnel, and a contractor will travel to St. John to conduct a canister sampling event, which will be completed on 4/15. Results of these samples will assist decision makers in the clearing of the condos for re-occupancy.

Media Interest: High

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/toxic-chemical-poisoned-delaware-family-previously-resort/story?id=30153626>

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/04/08/epa-investigating-use-pesticide-that-sickened-family-at-caribbean-resort/>

<http://www.mcall.com/news/nationworld/mc-us-family-sickened-epa-investigation-0408-20150408-story.html>

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed

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